

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] Although the diaper described in EP 951890 affords a basically satisfactory function, there is a need for further improved uptake, distribution and absorption of loose excrement in the type of diapers used on very small infants and in particular in the type used on premature babies. There is a need, not least, to reduce the risk of lateral leakage of loose excrement towards the user's legs. In addition to the need for reliable protection against lateral leakage, there are also corresponding requirements ~~in respect of a reduced~~ to reduce a risk of excrement leaking out at the rear and up towards the user's back. Moreover, it is particularly required that the type of diaper in question provides a good fit.

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] The invention will be described below with reference to preferred embodiment and to the attached drawings, in which:

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of an absorbent article in the form of a diaper, in which an embodiment of the present invention can be used[[.]];:

Figure 2 shows a diagrammatic and somewhat simplified top view of the diaper according to Figure 1[[.]];:

Figure 3 shows a slightly enlarged perspective view of the rear part of the diaper according to Figures 1 and 2[[.]]; and

Figure 4 shows a cross-sectional view of the ~~front part of the diaper~~ side barrier, when it is secured in contact with the front portion, that defines a folded structure of substantially Z-shaped cross section according to Figures 1-3.

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] The attachment of the elastic elements 10, 11, 14, 15 in the front portion 5 of the diaper 1 is analogous to the attachment in the rear portion 7. Thus, the front attachment point 10a of the first elastic element 10 lies outside the front attachment point 11a of the second elastic element 11, while the front attachment point 14a of the third elastic element 14 lies outside the front attachment point 15a of the fourth elastic element 15. However, it should be noted that the actual material of

the respective side barrier 8, 9 is folded like a ~~[[Z]]~~ V at the attachment to the front portion of the diaper 1, as has been described above.

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] The ~~Z-folded~~ Z-shaped structure at the front part of each side barrier 8, 9 can be seen clearly from Figure 4, which is a somewhat simplified and diagrammatic view of a cross section through the diaper 1, viewed at the front edge of the diaper 1, as is indicated by the line I-I in Figure 1. The left-hand part of Figure 4 shows an imaginary situation during production and shaping of the structure to give the ~~Z-folded~~ Z-shaped configuration. The right-hand part of Figure 4 shows the structure after it has been folded. Figure 4 shows how the first side barrier 8 is folded and also supports the first elastic element 10 and the second elastic element 11. Correspondingly, the second side barrier 9 is folded and supports the third elastic element 14 and the fourth elastic element 15. Two folds 22, 23 are thus formed in the respective side barrier 8, 9, namely a first fold 22 in the first side barrier 8 and a second fold 23 in the second side barrier 9. These folds 22, 23 are directed towards the inside of the diaper 1, i.e., in the direction towards an imaginary longitudinal axis of symmetry of the diaper 1. The inner elastic elements 11, 15, i.e., the second elastic element 11 and the fourth elastic element 15, are thus positioned at or near the respective fold 22, 23 which is formed. The other elastic threads 10, 14 are then applied where suitable between the inner threads 11, 15 and the outermost edge of the respective side barrier 8, 9.

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] Each side barrier 8, 9 is thus attached with the Z-shaped configuration at the front end of the respective side barrier 8, 9 (see Figure 1). The ~~Z-folded~~ Z-shaped portion expediently extends from the front edge 12 of the diaper and at least as far as the front edge of the absorption body 4. However, the invention is not limited to this, and instead the ~~Z-folded~~ Z-shaped portion can alternatively have another extent.